### KFBCLINK April 2025

#### Message from the Pastor

As a pastor, I do my best to keep up on world affairs, and especially what is happening across our globe in regard to the Christian church. It seems, over recent months, I am reading more and more information detailing increasing levels of persecution across our planet, and find myself in regular prayer for our brothers and sisters in these persecuted areas, as they face struggles and hardships that few of us here in America truly understand.

To help put this into perspective, a ministry called Open Doors has been working hard to bring awareness of persecution, and giving vital information as to which countries are the greatest offenders. Here are some basic facts that were recently posted...

North Korea is the most dangerous country for Christians. In North Korea, being discovered as a Christian can be effectively a death sentence.

In Somalia, all nationals are expected to be Muslim. In Somalia, Christians from Muslim backgrounds are regarded as high-value targets and may be killed on the spot if discovered.

In the North African nation of Libya, authorities assert that the country is a wholly Islamic nation. In the eyes of Libyan society, there is no room for Christianity. In Libya, when someone's faith is discovered, they are scorned by their own family and risk imprisonment.

In the country of Eritrea, located in the Horn of Africa, Christians continue to suffer extreme persecution, making it one of the hardest places in the world to follow Jesus.

In Yemen, following Jesus is extremely dangerous. Christians risk severe repercussions from their families, the authorities, or radical Islamic groups.

In Nigeria, Africa's most populous country, more believers are killed for their faith each year than everywhere else in the world combined.

Christians in Pakistan are considered second-class citizens and face discrimination in every aspect of life. Occupations that are deemed low, dirty, and degrading – such as working as a sewer cleaner or in a brick kiln – are reserved for Christians.

In Sudan, more than 165 churches have closed, and others have been destroyed. Churches have also reported human rights violations such as kidnapping, looting, and more.

In Iran, conversion from Islam to Christianity is illegal, and anyone caught as a convert can be arrested and imprisoned.

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4/4 Board Game Night

> 4/5 Church Cleanup

4/18 Good Friday

4/20 Easter

5/8 Blood Drive

First Baptist Church of Kent
11420 SE 248th St, Kent, WA 98030
253-852-5970; www.kentfirstbaptist.org
Email: kentfirstbaptist@live.com

STAFF
Senior Pastor, John Snell
Youth Director, Kira Smith
Children's Director, Kevin Crain

Message from the Pastor continued......

In Afghanistan, since the Taliban took over, a Christian can be sentenced to death, or they can be detained and tortured into giving information about fellow believers. As far as the Taliban are concerned, there are "no Christians" in Afghanistan.

As we consider what we just read, remember that the Bible is very clear that persecution is going to happen to believers, and we should never be shocked when it does. It says in 1 Peter 4:12-14, "Dear friends, don't be surprised at the fiery trials you are going through, as if something strange were happening to you. Instead, be very glad – for these trials make you partners with Christ in his suffering, so that you will have the wonderful joy of seeing his glory when it is revealed to all the world."

We should not be shocked at the idea of persecution; and just as Jesus suffered at the hands of those who stood against His message of HOPE, we too will struggle at the hands of those who reject the HOPE in Christ that defines our lives.

With that said, may we remember that even in the face of persecution, Jesus has the victory over sin and death! And this victory He has won, is the promise that keeps us standing firm. Jesus said in John 16:33, "I have told you all this so that you may have peace in me. Here on earth, you will have many trials and sorrows. But take heart, because I have overcome the world."

As we all go to prayer for the persecuted church across our world, may we remember that no matter what the world tries to do to silence Christianity... it will never succeed. There is victory in Jesus!

-Pastor John



### Easter

April 20th
Easter Service
@10am

Light Continental Breakfast @9am

April 20th @11:15am Easter Egg Hunt for our kids.

### **Good Friday**

Service April 18th @7pm







30TH, 2025 COST: \$5

### **LEVEL UP YOUTH**

IS GOING BOWLING

KENT BOWL 1234 CENTRAL AVE N, KENT, WA 98032

FOR MORE INFO PLEASE CONTACT KIRA SMITH @ 206-293-3205



### LEVEL UP DINNER

HOSTED BY: MIKE & HELEN GREB



6 PM - 8 PM



TO SIGN UP FOR FUTURE DINNERS, PLEASE CONTACT KIRA SMITH KERG



# Spring clean up

### APRIL 5TH

#### 7am till noon

We could use your help to get the church ready for Easter. Any time or help would be greatly appreciated.

### Dates to be determined soon

Times:

10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

We will meet in the ED Building.



This Outreach Sewing Ministry serves our local community by making and providing items of need.

#### -JOIN US!-

-Stop by and see what we do. No experience necessary to participate. Please continue to pray for this ministry that we will reach those who will be blessed by our service.

If you are interested in being a part of what we do, please email

HandsandHeartsKFB@gmail.com

# Men's Fellowship and Study

## Mondays @6pm

Join us for food, fellowship, and study

# Women's Group

Study & Share

### **Tuesdays**

6:30pm Dessert

**Fellowship** 

7Pm Study Time

#### Study the Book of Ephesians

Enjoy a special time of dessert and wonderful conversations as we encourage one another, pray for each other, and grow closer to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Please contact Cheryl Anderson at 206-719-0814 for more details.

**Bible Study** "That The **World May** Know" Lead by Scott Clark

8:45am

(Before Sunday Services)

Sunday Morning Studies:

**Bible** Study in Isaiah

Lead by Erik Nutley

11:30am

(After Sunday Services)

Questions?

Contact the Church for more Information at Kentfirstbaptist@live.com

### **Blood Drive at KFBC**

### May 8th 10am till 3:30pm



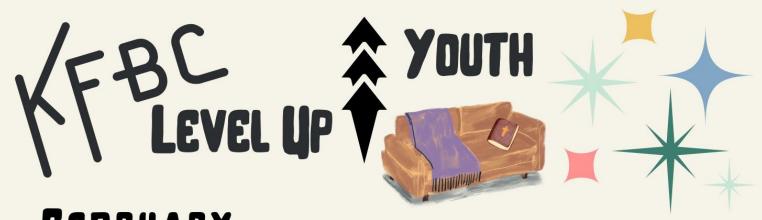
We will be doing another Blood Drive with the American Red Cross.

Please use the link below to get on the schedule.

https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=kentfbc







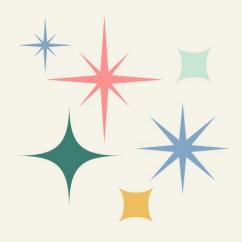
#### FEBRUARY

- 2 YOUTH GROUP
- 9 YOUTH GROUP
- 16 YOUTH GROUP
- 23 YOUTH DINNER

### MARCH

- 2 YOUTH GROUP
- 9 YOUTH GROUP
- 16 YOUTH GROUP
- 23 YOUTH DINNER
- **30 YOUTH EVENT**

YOUTH WILL BE
MEETING FROM
6PM-8PM IN THE
YOUTH ROOM
LOCATED IN THE
ED BUILDING



### APRIL

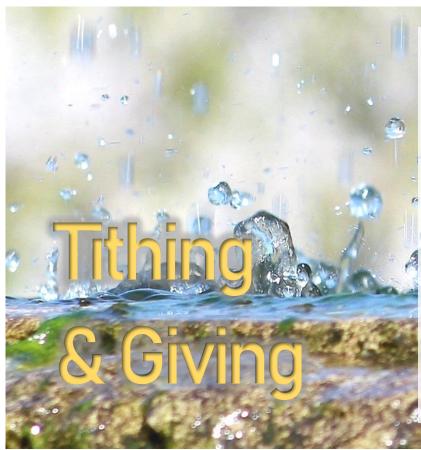
6 Youth Group

13 YOUTH GROUP

20 NO YOUTH GROUP (EASTER)

27 YOUTH DINNER

FOR MORE INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT KIRA SMITH @ 206.293.3205



-Yes, we have e giving available. Get the Tithe.ly app and click the location button. We are listed under First Baptist Church of Kent.

a-You can also click the giving link on our website at kentfirstbaptist.org.

-Another option is to have a check mailed from your bank to church or you can mail a check to the church.

#### **Prayer Requests:**

**Sabio Family** Pray for comfort and wisdom for the family after the passing of Fernando our missionary to Honduras.

Dave Krietzman Pray for him as he is in rehab, but getting ready to go home soon.

**Dan Crain** Pray for Kevin's uncle who had a stroke. He is still in the hospital. Pray for wisdom moving forward in his care.

**Brooke** Pray for Leslie Days niece and her unborn baby. She has to stay in the hospital for monitoring due to a condition where if the bloods vessels surrounding the baby break it will harm them both.

Ted Butler Pray with him for success in handling pain with this latest pain management technology.

Pam Jenson Pray for continued healing after shoulder surgery, she goes back to work next week.

Jodi Brukard Pray for continued healing after surgery.

**Rogita McNulty** Pray for continued healing after surgery. She is doing well and has returned to work, but she still has more scans coming in the near future.

Carol Lunden Pray for continued healing and strength.

Finely Pray for Sasia's son. Pray for health, healing and stamina as he moves into a new normal.

**Jamie** Gladys Buttons niece who has cancer. Praise that she is gaining some energy and has been able to go to church a few times and enjoy her kids. Continue to pray for healing as she goes for a pet scan.

**Amy** Pray for Jane Jefferies niece who is going through chemo and radiation to treat cancer.

**Sully** Praise, he is now home after receiving a kidney. Pray for healing and strength for this 2 year old.

Jeannie O'Connor Pray for her as she is going through some tough health and financial issues.

Glicel Jimenez Pray for her sister Gidget who is on chemo due to cancer, the tumor has grown.

-Pray for long term issues: Auren Satake, Sui Lian, Paula Briscoe, Steve Byorick, Nancy Carey

-Pray for our youth ministry as we start this new season of ministry with Kira.